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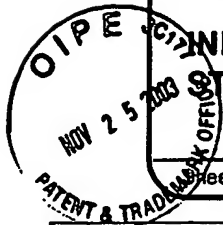
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Sheet 1 of 6

Application Number	10/647,119
Filing Date	August 25, 2003
First Named Inventor	Michael R. VIOLANTE et al.
Group Art Unit	3737
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	32286-192289



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date
/u/	3,695,921	10/3/72	SHEPHERD, et al.			
	4,100,309	7/11/78	MICKLUS, et al.			
	4,345,602	8/24/82	YOSHIMURA, et al.			
	4,373,009	2/8/83	WINN			
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	4,456,017	6/26/84	MILES			
	4,459,317	7/10/84	LAMBERT			
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	4,589,873	5/20/86	SCHWARTZ			
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	4,682,607	7/28/87	VAILLANCOURT			
	4,721,117	1/26/88	MAR, et al.			
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	4,950,257	8/21/90	HIBBS, et al.			
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V	5,041,100	8/20/91	ROWLAND, et al.			
	5,061,254	10/29/91	KARAKELLE, et al.			
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Examiner

Date Considered

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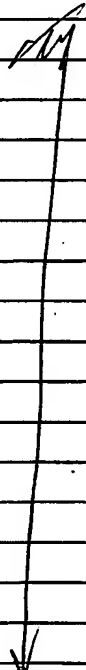
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Sheet 2 of 6

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date
	5,201,314	4/13/93	BOSLEY, et al.			
	5,331,027	7/19/94	WHITBOURNE			
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90/03768	4/19/90	WIPO			

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	McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science & Technology, 6 th Edition, (1987) C.R. Martinson, et al.; Surface Coating, Vol. 18, p. 7
	Interpenetrating Polymer Networks, Daniel Klempner, (1978)
	Endovascular Surgery, Wesley S. Moore, M.D., et al. (1989 W.B. Saunders Company), pp. 157-159

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Sheet 3 of 6

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		4,572,203		FEINSTEIN	02/1986	
		4,582,061		FRY	04/1986	
		4,681,119		RASOR et al.	07/1987	
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		5,054,310		FLYNN	10/1991	
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		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WIPO	94/16739			08/1994		
		FR	2272633			12/1975		
		DE	3501355	A1		07/1985		

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Sheet 4 of 6

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First Named Inventor	Michael R. VIOLANTE et al.
Group Art Unit	3737
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	32286-192289

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
[Signature]		Rompp Chemie Lexicon, Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart, New York, 9. Auflage, 1992, Vol. 5 (Pi-S), pp. 4016 and 3575-3576. ("Schaumstoffe")	
		Rompp Chemie Lexicon, Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart, New York, 9. Auflage, 1992, Vol. 6 (T-Z), p. 4688. ("Treibmittel")	
		M. R. VIOLANTE et al., "Particle Stabilized Bubbles For Enhanced Organ Ultrasound Imaging", Investigative Radiology, Vol. 26, Supp. I, November 1991, pp. S194-S197.	
		Barbara A. CARROLL et al., "Gelatin Encapsulated Nitrogen Micro-Bubbles as Ultrasound Contrast Agents", Investigative Radiology, Vol. 15, May-June 1980, pp. 260-266.	
		Jonathan OPHIR et al., "Contrast Agents for Diagnostic Ultrasound", Ultrasound Medicine and Biology, Vol. 15, No. 4, 1989, pp. 319-333.	
[Signature]		K.J. PARKER, et al., "A Particular Contrast Agent With Potential For UltraSound Imaging Of Liver," UltraSound in Med. & Biology, Vol. 13, No. 9, March 1987, pp. 555-566	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
[Signature]		5,383,468		PARTIKA	01/1995	
		5,409,688		QUAY	04/1995	
		5,454,373		KOGER et al.	10/1995	
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		5,120,770		DOYLE et al.	06/09/1992	

Examiner Signature	[Signature]	Date Considered	3-22-06
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**


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Sheet 5 of 6

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Application Number	10/647,119
Filing Date	August 25, 2003
First Named Inventor	Michael R. VIOLANTE et al.
Group Art Unit	3737
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	32286-192289

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

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		Diane BERGIN et al., "Echogenic Polymer Coating: Does It Improve Needle Visualization in Sonographically Guided Biopsy?", AJR: 178, May: 2002. pp. 1188-1190.	
		Ronald H. GOTTLIEB, et al., "Coating Agent Permits Improved Visualization of Biopsy Needles During Sonography", AJR 171, November: 1998. pp. 1301-1302.	
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		M. VIOLANTE et al., "Enhanced Ultrasound Visibility of Medical Devices", Society for Biomaterials, San Diego, CA. April 22-25, 1998.	
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Sheet	6	of	6
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OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

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